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## Listing of Claims:

- 16. (Currently Amended) A An isolated proton-gated cation channel having the amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID NO: 12 or a varient of that sequence having at least 85% identity therewith.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A channel according to Claim
  16, which forms a homopolymeric channel.
- 18. (Original) A channel according to Claim 16 in combination with another cation channel sub-unit which together form a heteropolymeric channel.
  - 19. (Currently Amended) A channel according to Claim
    18, wherein the other cation channel belongs to the
    degenerin/ENaC channel superfamily.
  - 20. (Currently Amended) A channel according to Claim
    18, wherein the other cation channel is a P2X ATP-gated channel.

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- 21. (Currently Amended) A channel according to Claim 20, wherein the other cation channel sub-unit of is a P2X2 ATP-gated channel sub-unit.
- 22. (Original) A nucleic acid encoding a proton-gated cation channel as defined in Claim 16.

Claims 22 - 33 are withdrawn from consideration.

- 34. (Currently Amended) The channel of Claim 16 having at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:  $\pm$  2.
  - 35. (Currently Amended) The channel of Claim 34 having at least 95% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:  $\pm$  2.
  - 36. (Currently Amended) The channel of Claim 35 having at least 98% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:  $\pm 2$ .

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37. (Currently Amended) The channel of Claim 36 having at least 99% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:  $\frac{1}{2}$ .